

Message Text

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SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV PRESS CRITICIZES ZIVKOVA STATEMENT ON MACEDONIAN
MINORITY

REF: BELGRADE 4863

1. RECENT LJUDMILA ZIVKOVA SPEECH HAS DRAWN SHARP REACTION IN YUGOSLAV PRESS. ARTICLES APPEARING IN FEBRUARY 10 BORBA, AND FEBRUARY 11 DELO AND VJESNIK CRITICIZE ZIVKOVA STATEMENT THAT "UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF SOCIALIST SOCIETY" THE POPULATION OF PIRIN MACEDONIA" HAS BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS BULGARIAN NATIONAL FEELING AND MOOD."

2. DELO CHARGED THAT SPEECH REPRESENTED NEW ESCALATION IN ANTI-MACEDONIAN AND ANTI-YUGOSLAV POLICY, AND DECRIED "THE FACT THAT THE SPEECH WAS MADE BY A DISTINGUISHED OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND DAUGHTER OF THE HIGHEST BULGARIAN LEADER," ADDING THAT SUCH STATEMENTS HAD FORMERLY BEEN CONFINED TO THE "SO-CALLED SCIENTIFIC LEVEL."

3. VJESNIK ADDED THAT BULGARIA HAS BEEN BEHAVING IN A CHAUVINIST AND NATIONALIST MANNER TOWARD YUGOSLAVIA LATELY, AND WAS NOT CONCEALING ITS TERRITORIAL CLAIMS. NATIONALISM AND EXPANSIONISM
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WERE NOT JUST "MISTAKES" OF CERTAIN SCIENTISTS, BUT OFFICIAL POLICY.

4. BORBA ALSO HIT RECENT PUBLICATION OF "ETHNOGRAFIA BULGARIAE"
IN WHICH MACEDONIAN HEROS SUCH AS MARKO KRALJEVIC AND TSAR
SAMUEL WERE CLAIMED AS BULGARIANS.
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